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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

CD NO.

COUNTRY Bulgaria

DATE DISTR. 2 February 1953

SUBJECT The Gara Krichim Paper Mill

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SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

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Location and Description

1. A factory for the production of paper is located in Gara Krichim (N4207 E2432), 500 meters southwest of the station and village of Krichim. It has two main buildings, each 100 meters long and 18 meters wide, which are parallel to each other and are divided into departments. One building has a tower 20 meters high, of which four meters extend above the roof; the other has a tower 18 meters high. Both buildings have approximately 100 windows which are one and one-half meters high and two meters wide; both buildings are constructed of reinforced concrete and utilized approximately 400 tons of steel each. The main building, also called the chemical building, has a steam department.
2. A warehouse and pump station have been constructed 15 meters from, and parallel with, the chemical building. The pumping station will supply water to the entire factory. The warehouse, which is for raw material storage, is connected from its first floor to the second floor of the chemical building by a ramp which is 18 meters long, 2.40 meters wide, and three meters high. The ramp is constructed of reinforced concrete and is laid at an angle of 35 degrees; narrow gauge tracks have been laid on the ramp, but no cars have arrived.
3. A machine shop 20 meters long, eight meters wide, and eight meters high is located 20 meters south of the chemical building. Three lathes, one drill press, one electric steel saw, one milling machine, and a small molding department equipped with a "Bagryanka" furnace are located on the first floor of the building; the second floor is utilized as a residence for the workers.
4. The administration building, a 2-story structure 15 meters long, 10 meters wide, and nine meters high, is located on the south side of the plant. The restaurant and kitchen for the workers is located between the administration building and the machine shop.

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5. Four 3-story residence buildings, each composed of 24 apartments, are located outside the plant area, approximately 400 meters to the south. The buildings are 18 meters long, nine meters wide, and 12 meters high. The plan calls for 18 buildings of this type.

Construction Details

6. In March 1950, construction was begun. The factory was completed in April 1951, at which time the installation of machinery began. A certain Trapisin, a Soviet engineer about 40 years old, [redacted] directed the construction of the factory. Three Russians, one of whom is a certain Kulbakov, about 35, [redacted] are in charge of installing the machinery. The Russians are all married and live with their families at the factory.
7. During 1950 and 1951, the factory employed 900 construction workers. During 1952, approximately 300 construction workers under the guidance of 15 technical supervisors remained at the factory; these workers were from the Dürzhavno Stroitelno Obiedinenie (State Construction Union). In addition to the construction workers, the factory employs approximately 20 technicians and 150 workers who install the machinery. They are under the supervision of six persons who are to be the director, assistant director, and administrative personnel of the factory.
8. In June 1951, machines packed in wooden crates arrived from the Soviet Union and were installed in the factory. Approximately 15 cylinders which have a diameter of 3.5 meters and a height of 8.5 meters were installed in the main building. A large machine which is approximately 12 meters long, 3.8 meters wide, and two meters high, and which has numerous metal rollers was assembled in the paper department.
9. Water for the factory is brought in from six springs located above Trivoditsa village, Pazardzhik district, via a conduit which is 1.30 meters wide, 1.65 meters high, of cement construction, and covered with earth, to a reservoir in the yard of the factory. The springs are in a row covering a distance of approximately 700 meters; the third spring is the largest. Each spring has been capped in the following manner: two are made with a rectangular form with a length of six meters, a width of three meters, and a height of three meters; the large spring is covered with a cylindrical form seven meters in diameter and three meters high; the other three are covered with a cylindrical form 3.5 meters in diameter and 1.6 meters high. The cap in the large spring is made of steel and cement and the others are made of poured cement. The water from the six springs is gathered in a settling tank which is 12 meters long, six meters wide, 3.20 meters high, of concrete construction, and covered with a concrete slab.

Security

10. A barbed wire fence which is 1.4 meters high, consisting of five rows of wire, surrounds the factory.
11. Admission to the factory is by a special pass which is obtained from the "kadri" chief. Such passes may be obtained for two or three months or for a few days only on a renewable basis. Entrance into departments where no one is working is forbidden. In order to enter departments other than his own, a worker must have a special permit from the chief of "kadri" of that department.
12. The plant is guarded by a special local guard of 20 men who are under the direct supervision of the Militia at Gara Krichim. A 24-hour guard post is located at the main gate of the plant and four roving patrols cover the plant area at all times. The men wear blue uniforms and are armed with old German and Italian rifles.